

# Compliance Corner

Answering your Compliance, Coding, HIPAA Privacy and Security Questions



## Fellow Employees,

Below are the results of the 2008 Compliance Questionnaire. The questionnaire was distributed to approximately 2,600 employees and was available in both English and Spanish. Some 798 employees or 31 percent returned completed questionnaires.

The areas where the respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the question 95 percent or more of the time included:

- *Being aware of the Compliance Program*
- *Knowing who the Compliance Officer is and how to contact her*
- *Knowing how to direct a patient to file a complaint*

- *Knowing whom to report to and how to report compliance incidents or violation of policy.*
- *Being aware of the ability to report an issue anonymously and confidentially*
- *Being aware of the Compliance Hotline and how to access it*
- *Understanding patient information in compliance with HIPAA privacy practices.*
- *Knowing not to divulge passwords to anyone*
- *Understanding the Joint Notice of Privacy Practices and how their PHI is used.*

The areas where the respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the question less than 95 percent of the time included:

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## Is Your Scene Green?



South Nassau has rolled out its green initiative, “Project Green,” to the hospital staff. Members of the Green Team Steering Committee were on hand by the cafeteria entrance to educate staff about the importance of making environmentalism a component of the organization’s culture. The committee distributed samples of filtered water and also gave away a gym bag, gym membership to New York Sports Club and a “green” gift basket, which included “energy-wise” fluorescent bulbs.

*Kathy Boyle, director of corporate education, and Dorothy Wolff, R.N., performance improvement/staff development, home care, staff the “green” table.*

## Environmental Stewardship

*A “green” poem by executive chef Stephen Bello:*

An environmental initiative is underway,  
Employee buy-in is critical each and every day.

If it is the responsibility of all of us,  
Why is chef making such a fuss?

In a time of economic and ecological needs,  
I felt compelled to plant the seeds.

If we take the time to understand its importance,  
It will contribute to the next generation’s environmental insurance.

South Nassau employees are the best,  
“Going green” will make us stand out among the rest.

The project is building tremendous momentum,  
I need each of us to work in tandem.

Take the time to create sustainable efficiencies,  
And soon there will be no deficiencies.

As an organization we are creating a new culture,  
It will take time to develop a solid structure.

Recycling can save the Earth,  
Its revenue can increase our worth.

We are all ambassadors of Project Green,  
Spread the word and be part of the team.

So I ask you, please do your part,  
And I promise you that tomorrow will be a brand new start.

Collectively we can make a difference,  
Together we will make a difference.